

INFORMAL REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. SEP 19 1949

SUBJECT Production of Armored Vehicles
and Light Weapons

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15 March 19491. Rinchoffer-Tatra Works, Prague XVI

The construction department is designing a new vehicle on Jeep lines: four-wheel drive, air-cooled engine, with gas consumption calculated at 14 1/2 liters per 100 km (16.2 miles per gallon). Two prototypes will be built: one for normal road work, the other an amphibian. Blueprints will not be finished before the end of summer 1949.

31 March 19492. Ceskoslovenska Zbrojovka (CSZ) Plant at Vsetin-Jasenka (P50/043)

A series of large-caliber German type machine guns is being completed at this plant from wartime stocks of material. Also being produced are artillery shells and Panzerfausts, the latter varying slightly from the German original.

3. Airfield Construction at Holesov (P50/012)

At a meeting of Holesov authorities in late February 1949 it was decided to construct two hangars on the local airfield and only one instead of three projected apartment houses. Original plans called for the building of three apartment projects.

4. MEZ (Moravske Elektrotechnicke Zavody - Moravian Electrical Engineering Works) at Vsetin (P50/043)

After four months of work, the MEZ plant finished a prototype, from German blueprints, of a dynamometer with an output of 500 KW. This was dismantled and three copies made. A dynamometer of 5,000 KW capacity is under construction; at present only the shaft, with a 33 cm diameter, is being worked on. Labor is proceeding in three shifts, day and night, orders having been placed by the USSR, which requires the dynamometers for testing aircraft turbine engines.

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5. Czechoslovakia Zbrojovka Works at Jablunka (P50/039)

- a. The following deliveries of Skoda 34 hand grenades have been made since mid-1948:

- 1) 105,000 to military
- 2) 30,000 to military
- 3) 280,000 to military
- 4) 370,000 to the warehouses in Slavcin near Bojkovica (P50/P39), in February 1949.
- 5) 40,000 to the warehouses in Slavcin in March 1949.
- 6) 30,000 specially wrapped and packed, sent to a military unit in Mikulovice (049/S27)***.
- 7) 20,000 are still to be made for delivery to the warehouses in Slavcin.

- b. The manufacture of the present Skoda grenades will, however, be discontinued during 1949, and in the future Jedlicka grenades will be made. Enough basic materials for the production of 1,200,000 Jedlicka grenades are on hand. One thousand have been ordered for testing purposes. Twenty of these were made and successfully tested on 23 March. This grenade is larger and more sensitive than the Skoda grenade. During the tests, however, the grenades were thrown by hand only, and the use of mechanical throwers was prohibited.

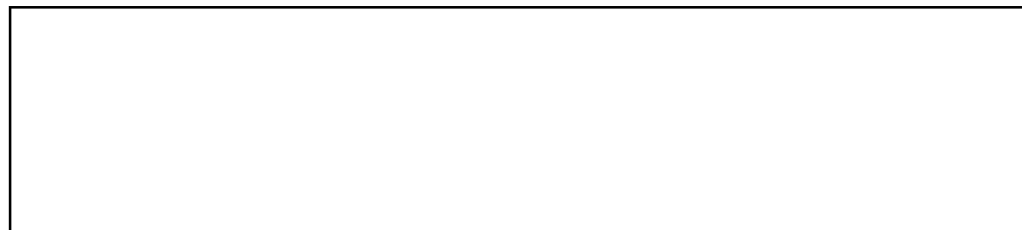
6 May 1949

6. Military Unit at Sumperk (P50/N69)

A motorized infantry battalion at Sumperk, Moravia, has been equipped with 48 half-tracks of the German Maibach type.

7. Armored Vehicle Repair Shops at Senov (P50/Q46) and Prostějov (P50/N73)

A large repair shop for Czechoslovak Army armored vehicles is being built at Senov. Civilian mechanics are already employed there in temporary workshops. Similar repairs are being carried out by "Agrostroj", Wichterle & Kovarik, Prostějov.



***  Comment:  this shipment was consigned to Greece.

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